

Rockledge Park Racquet Association Handbook for Team Captains

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Purpose of the Handbook

The purpose of the Rockledge Park Racquet Association Handbook for Team Captains is to provide suggestions for leadership and sportsmanship both on and off the tennis courts. The handbook is designed to help captains participate in a way that expresses the spirit of the RPRA. These guidelines are offered with the best interest of the entire Association and its members.

Introduction

The Rockledge Park Racquet Association wants to be known as a place where people and sportsmanship come first, then the victories and the trophies. In many years the trophies will be put away in the dusty corners of our attic. What will remain is the memory of friends and teammates unified after a common goal, sharing the joys of victory and the disappointment of defeat. We want our reputation in the community and among our members to be that of a caring place to enjoy this great game, while having opportunities for friendly competition and vie for championships. Captains and their teams represent RPRA, and how they handle themselves will form the reputation of RPRA, which has more long-term value than the results of a match or league. Our goal is to have the reputation for great sportsmanship, fair play and a high level of tennis.

Remember tennis reveals your character – play accordingly!

Team Captain Protocols

At RPRA (Rockledge Park Racquet Association) it is our hope that all of our Captains exercise positivity, common sense and courtesy at all times. In an effort to promote fair matches, friendly competition and good sportsmanship, the lineups for Space Coast Tennis League matches should ALWAYS be based on the order of ability.

SCTL (Space Coast Tennis League) rules govern league play. In cases not specifically covered by these rules, USTA rules and “The (USTA) Code” as a handbook of ethics and fair play should be understood. All Captains should have read SCTL rules and USTA rules of tennis.

No system of rules will cover every specific problem or situation. All players and captains are actively encouraged to resolve any issues between competing teams amongst themselves. If players of goodwill follow the principles of The Code, they should always be able to reach an agreement, while at the same time making tennis more fun and a better game for all. (Excerpt From Part 2 - The Code).

Below is a link for the Space Coast Tennis League Rules:

<https://scl.tenniscores.com/?mod=nndz-SkdQbGxQMD0%3D>

Space Coast Tennis League Registration

When registering a team, irrespective of who (club pro, captain or other) actually enters the team information into the SCTL system, captains are responsible to check the roster and the SCTL website to make sure that there were no errors in submitting the names of their players. This also applies to adding players after the season begins.

The signature of all players must be on the original paper roster when the roster is electronically submitted using the SCTL website. If a player is unavailable to sign the original paper roster, his/her text/email will suffice until they are able to sign the roster. This text/email must be attached to the original roster with the date of communication clearly marked. The original roster and any texts/emails are to be retained by the captain until the end of the season as proof that an individual signed a roster to join a team prior to the registration deadline.

A player is considered to be on a team when that player’s name, along with the appropriate fee, has been electronically submitted to SCTL.

All Division Rosters are due on the date the Division VP sets as the Original Roster Due Date. Any player registered by the Original Roster Due Date shall be considered to be on the Original Roster.

More information about creating teams can be found on the following link for Space Coast Tennis League Rules:

<https://scl.tenniscores.com/?mod=nndz-SkdQbGxQMD0%3D>

Preparing for your Matches and Post-Match Responsibilities

- The home team must furnish one can of unopened surface appropriate (hard or clay court) USTA approved yellow balls for each line of play.
- Lighting. While some courts in the county have newer LED lighting that is essentially “instant-on,” the Pinder Tennis Center has an older generation of court lighting (called metal halide) that requires a long start cycle, as long as 15 minutes. For this reason, it is essential that captains, or their representatives, are at the courts at least 15 minutes prior to night play and turn the light timer to its maximum duration (90 minutes for the hard courts, two hours for the clay courts). In many cases another team or player will have already taken care of turning the lights on, but you should always check. Likewise, it is important to check the timers for your court lights during competition: every season somebody forgets to check the timer and they go off during the match, requiring a 10–15 minute delay to restart play. The timers for the hard courts are on the north side of the office building, while the clay court timer is at the corner of the sidewalk near court 10. Please immediately report any issue you notice with the lighting – such as a single light that doesn’t come on - to Dawn so she can contact the maintenance team at the County Parks and Rec Dept to fix it.
- Sprinkler issues. The clay courts are generally watered late at night and mid-afternoon, but Dawn can adjust the schedule if needed. For example: if you plan a make-up match that starts at 5pm on clay courts, it may be useful to let Dawn know so the courts don’t still have muddy spots or even puddles when you get there.
- Please ensure your team sweeps and lines the clay courts after each match. Too often our teams show up for a match and the first thing they need to do is sweep and line so they can start play.
- Scor-Post Scorekeepers are kept in Dawn’s office. These should be displayed on each court before the start of matches and put away after play.

Posting Scores for Space Coast Tennis League

The results of the match and signatures of captains, or their representatives, must be recorded on the scorecards at the end of the match. Scorecards shall be written legibly with the following information: name of team, first and last names of players, date, games, total games, number of sets lost, points won and captain’s or designated team member’s signature (unless the match is being protested).

Captains who wish to protest a match must withhold their signature from the scorecard and submit an email to their appropriate level coordinator.

Both captains will retain their copies of the scorecards until the end of the season.

The home captain or their representative is responsible to enter the match score on the SCTL website on the same day as the match except for the Mixed Division which should be entered within 24 hours.

The visiting captain must review the match scores on the SCTL website within 5 days of the match. If a discrepancy is noted, the discrepancy must be reported to the appropriate level coordinator.

When rained out matches are completed, captains should enter the match score on the SCTL website indicating the original match date.

Inclement Weather

In the event of rain, the home captain will have the sole responsibility to determine whether the courts are playable and advise the visiting captain as early as possible. If the home captain knows prior to the start of the match that the courts will not be playable within 30 minutes of the scheduled start time, the match will be considered a rainout.

For more details about inclement weather rules with SCTL, refer to their website:

<https://scl.tenniscodes.com/?mod=nndz-SkdQbGxQMD0%3D>

Rockledge Park Racquet Association Memberships

Full Year: August 1 through July 31 each year

Family \$180 per year

Individual \$130 per year

Fall Season: August through December 31

Family \$95 for season

Individual \$70 for season

Spring Season: January 1 through July 31

Family \$95 for season

Individual \$70 for season

USTA Summer Season: May 1 through July 31

Individual \$40 for season

Membership dues must be current in order to participate on a team in League Play (SCTL and/or USTA) that is based at Rockledge Park.